GAMERVERSE
MARVEL
#1
SPIDER-MAN
VELOCITY
HOPELESS
LAISO
ROSENBERG

PETER PARKER WAS BITTEN BY A RADIOACTIVE SPIDER AND GAINED THE PROPORTIONAL SPEED, STRENGTH, AND AGILITY OF AN ARACHNID, ADHESIVE FINGERTIPS AND TOES, AND THE UNIQUE PRECOGNITIVE AWARENESS OF DANGER CALLED *"SPIDER-SENSE"!* AFTER THE TRAGIC DEATH OF HIS UNCLE BEN, PETER UNDERSTOOD THAT WITH GREAT POWER THERE MUST ALSO COME GREAT RESPONSIBILITY, AND BECAME THE WALL-CRAWLING, WISECRACKING SUPER HERO CALLED…**SPIDER-MAN!**

MARVEL

SPIDER-MAN

VELOCITY

AFTER DEFEATING HIS FORMER MENTOR-TURNED-SUPER VILLAIN OTTO OCTAVIUS, A.K.A. DOCTOR OCTOPUS, AND COPING WITH THE TRAGIC DEATH OF HIS AUNT MAY, PETER PARKER BEGAN PICKING UP THE PIECES OF HIS PERSONAL LIFE. HE REKINDLED HIS ROMANTIC RELATIONSHIP WITH *DAILY BUGLE* REPORTER MARY JANE WATSON. HE GOT A NEW APARTMENT! BUT THE JOB OF SPIDER-MAN IS NEVER DONE…

WRITER
DENNIS "HOPELESS" HALLUM

ARTIST
EMILIO LAISO

COLORIST
RACHELLE ROSENBERG

LETTERER
VC's TRAVIS LANHAM

COVER ARTIST
SKAN

VARIANT COVER ARTISTS
ADI GRANOV (DESIGN); GABRIELE DELL'OTTO; MATTHEW WAITE (8-BIT VARIANT)

PRODUCTION DESIGN
NICK RUSSELL

ASSISTANT EDITOR
MARTIN BIRO

EDITOR
MARK BASSO

EDITOR IN CHIEF
C.B. CEBULSKI

CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER
JOE QUESADA

PRESIDENT
DAN BUCKLEY

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER
ALAN FINE

FOR INSOMNIAC GAMES & MARVEL GAMES

STUDIO ART DIRECTOR, INSOMNIAC GAMES
JACINDA CHEW

LEAD WRITER, INSOMNIAC GAMES
JON PAQUETTE

DIRECTOR OF GAME PRODUCTION, MARVEL GAMES
ERIC MONACELLI

VP & CREATIVE DIRECTOR, MARVEL GAMES
BILL ROSEMANN

SPIDER-MAN
CREATED BY
STAN LEE &
STEVE DITKO

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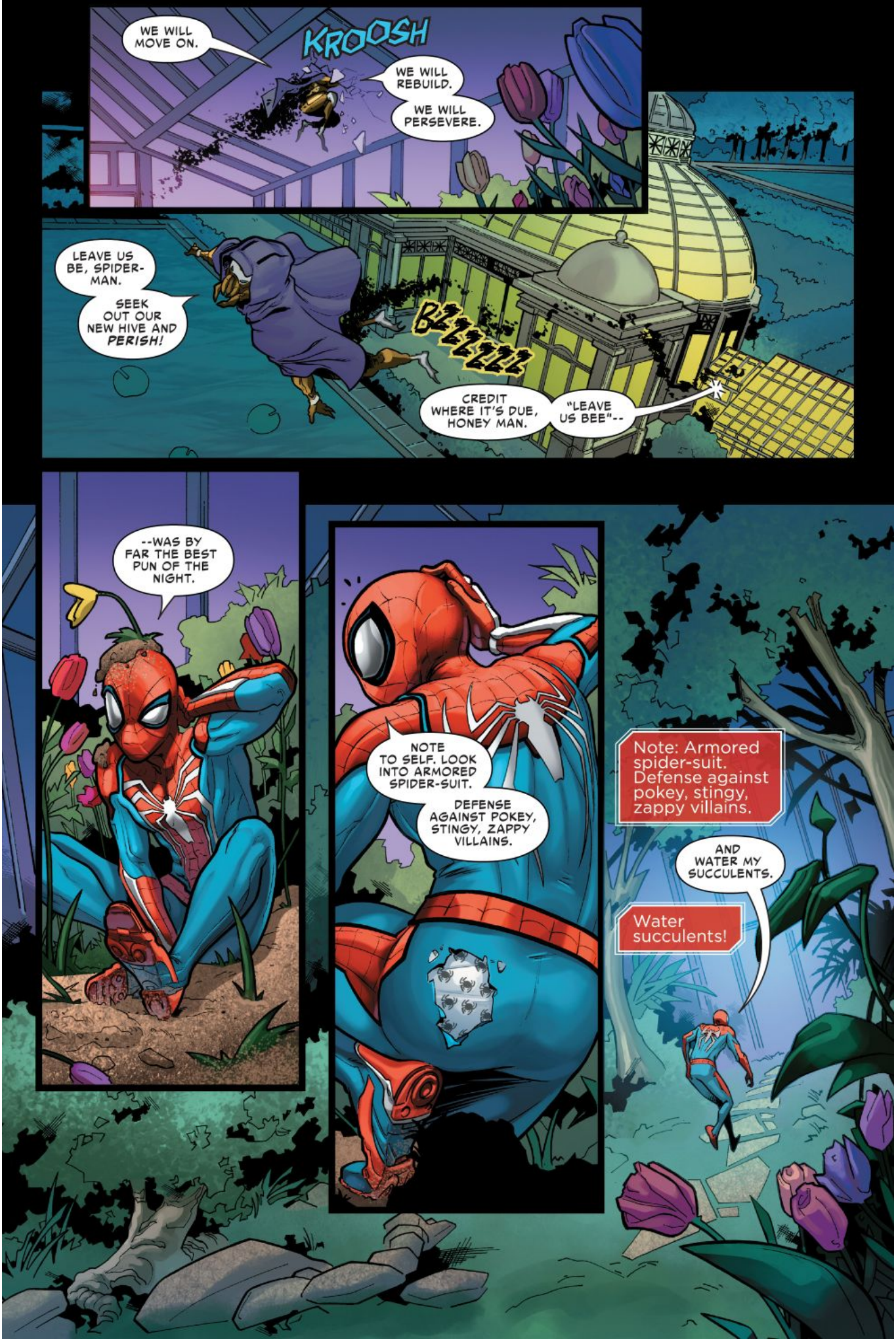
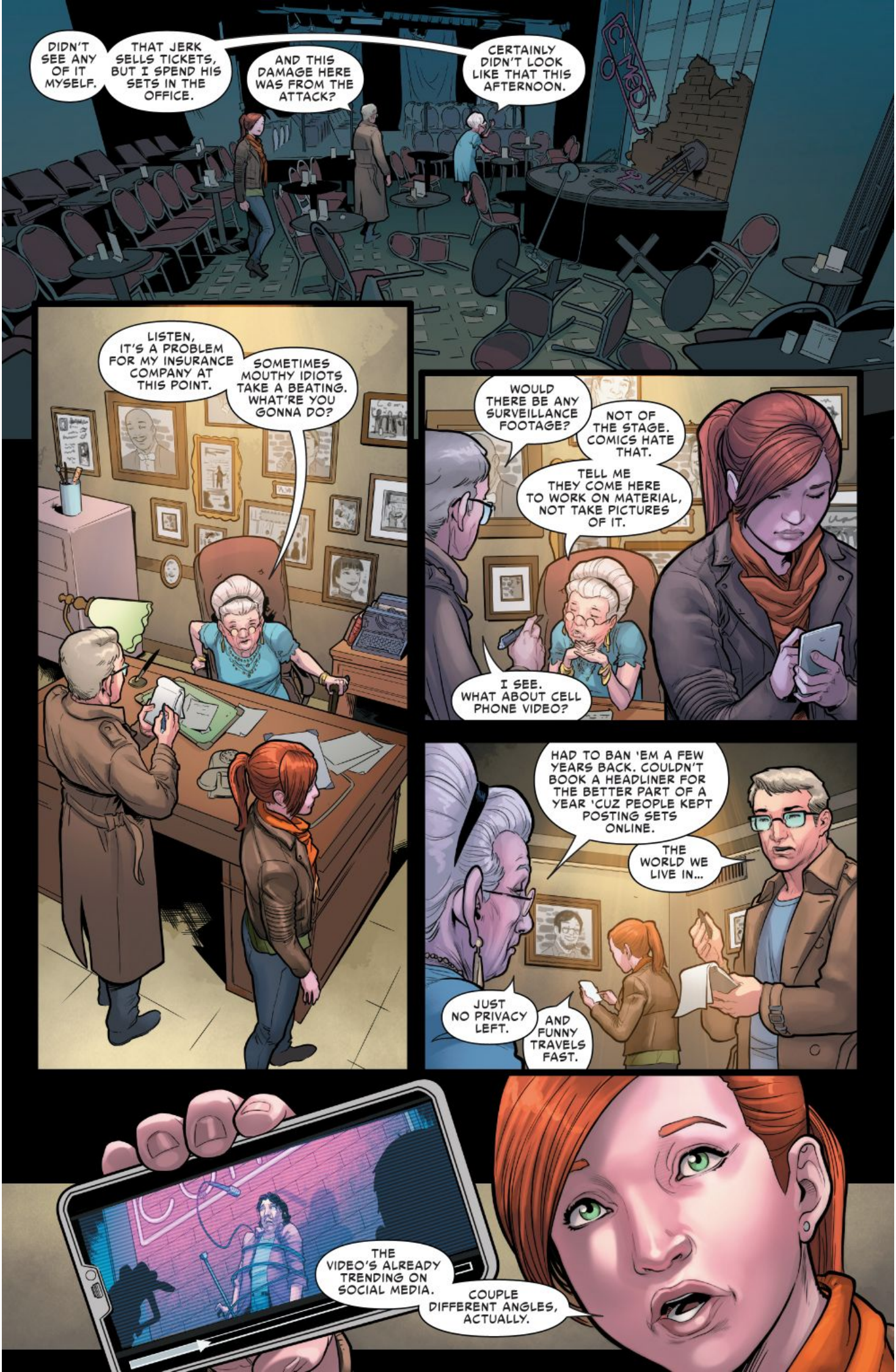
CAN A PERSON DEVELOP NEW PHOBIAS LATE IN LIFE?
'CUZ, LIKE, I'VE NEVER BEEN ESPECIALLY SCARED OF BEES.
HARD-WORKING, INDUSTRIOUS CREATURES THAT ONLY STING IN SELF-DEFENSE.
BZZZZZZZ
Brooklyn Botanic Garden.
BUT YOU, SIR, HAVE ENTIRELY FLIPPED THE SCRIPT. I CAN FEEL THE HONEYCOMB NIGHT TERRORS BREWING.
YOU DARE DISRUPT THE HIVE OF THE MIGHTY SWARM?!
YES, WELL, IN HINDSIGHT--
SPLSSH
--THAT WAS FOOLISH.

THWIP
THWIP
THOUGH IN MY DEFENSE--
THWIP
THWIP
--YOU HAVE BEEN ROBBING THE CITY BLIND--
--AND SOME PEOPLE--
THWIP
THWIP
THWIP
--ARE QUITE ALLERGIC--
WHAK
--TO BEE-STINGS.
IT'S SORTA MY JOB, YOU KNOW?
PNNK
FOLLOWING EVIL HOME.
YOURS IS LOVELY, BY THE WAY.
SO GREEN.
I CAN'T EVEN KEEP MY SUCCULENTS ALIVE.

WE ARE MANY.
WE ARE ONE.
WE ARE GROWING.
I KNOW. I KNOW. NOTHING CAN RESIST THE SWARM.
YOU CANNOT CONTAIN US, SPIDER!
WUH-OH.
YOWWWCH!
STNNNG
FLMMP


WE WILL MOVE ON.
KROOSH
WE WILL REBUILD.
WE WILL PERSEVERE.
LEAVE US BE, SPIDER-MAN.
SEEK OUT OUR NEW HIVE AND PERISH!
BZZZZZZ
CREDIT WHERE IT'S DUE, HONEY MAN.
"LEAVE US BEE"--
--WAS BY FAR THE BEST PUN OF THE NIGHT.
NOTE TO SELF. LOOK INTO ARMORED SPIDER-SUIT.
DEFENSE AGAINST POKEY, STINGY, ZAPPY VILLAINS.
Note: Armored spider-suit. Defense against pokey, stingy, zappy villains.
AND WATER MY SUCCULENTS.
Water succulents!

MJ
Oh my God, Peter, I was at happy hour with Ben when an EMT source of his called. Now we're out interviewing people for his story on the string of mysterious assaults.
I can't believe Ben Urich is my work friend!
F.D.
AMBU
COMEDY FACTORY
ATM
INJURIES ARE THE SAME AS THE OTHERS.
MILD LACERATIONS AND BRUISING HEAD TO TOE.
LIKE HE TOOK AN INVISIBLE BEATING.
AND NO WITNESSES?
DOZENS OF WITNESSES, COLUMBO! I WAS UP ON STAGE!
OW!
I TOLD YOU TO STOP TOUCHING IT!
TO BE HONEST, I KINDA WANT TO BEAT HIM WITH A CURLING IRON MYSELF.
YEAH, THAT'S ANOTHER THING THE VICTIMS HAVE IN COMMON.
THEY'VE PRETTY MUCH ALL SUCKED.
BELIEVE IT OR NOT, THERE'S USUALLY SOMETHING TO THAT.
HMM.
CAN I JUST SAY HOW BONKERS IT IS WATCHING THE BEN URICH DO HIS THING?
YOU CAN, BUT IT WILL MAKE ME FEEL 1,000 YEARS OLD.
SORRY. CAN'T HELP IT. YOU'RE MY FAVORITE.


DIDN'T SEE ANY OF IT MYSELF.
THAT JERK SELLS TICKETS, BUT I SPEND HIS SETS IN THE OFFICE.
AND THIS DAMAGE HERE WAS FROM THE ATTACK?
CERTAINLY DIDN'T LOOK LIKE THAT THIS AFTERNOON.
LISTEN, IT'S A PROBLEM FOR MY INSURANCE COMPANY AT THIS POINT.
SOMETIMES MOUTHY IDIOTS TAKE A BEATING. WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO?
WOULD THERE BE ANY SURVEILLANCE FOOTAGE?
NOT OF THE STAGE. COMICS HATE THAT.
TELL ME THEY COME HERE TO WORK ON MATERIAL, NOT TAKE PICTURES OF IT.
I SEE. WHAT ABOUT CELL PHONE VIDEO?
HAD TO BAN 'EM A FEW YEARS BACK. COULDN'T BOOK A HEADLINER FOR THE BETTER PART OF A YEAR 'CUZ PEOPLE KEPT POSTING SETS ONLINE.
THE WORLD WE LIVE IN...
JUST NO PRIVACY LEFT.
AND FUNNY TRAVELS FAST.
THE VIDEO'S ALREADY TRENDING ON SOCIAL MEDIA.
COUPLE DIFFERENT ANGLES, ACTUALLY.

AND LISTEN, IF YOU'VE NEVER BEEN ARRESTED IN A FLYOVER STATE, YOU JUST WEREN'T--
--TRYING-- HARD--
--ENOUGH!
THNNK
MFFRRRGL!
THIS HAS TO BE FAKE, RIGHT? THAT'S THE SIMPLEST EXPLANATION. SOMEBODY FAKED IT.
ORDINARILY, BUT IT LINES UP WITH ALL OF MY EYEWITNESS ACCOUNTS.

I'VE SEEN ALL SORTS OF WEIRD LIVING IN THIS CITY, BUT NEVER ANYTHING THAT WEIRD. HORROR MOVIE WEIRD.
I REMEMBER A STORY. NOT MY STORY. A COLLEAGUE'S. MAGGIE LORCA. MAYBE FIFTEEN YEARS BACK.
SHE WAS INVESTIGATING... SOMETHING TO DO WITH OSCORP--
HONK
HONK HONK HONK
HONK
OKAY, WHAT JUST--
HONK HONK
GAH!
OH MY GOD, BEN!
CLANG
WHOA! WHOA! WHOA!
ABSOLUTELY NOT!
LET ME GO!

Peter Parker's new (and still tiny) apartment...
OH MY GOD. OH MY GOD. OH MY GOD.
PETER.
MJ?
I'M OKAY. I'M OKAY. I'M OKAY.
SLAM
I HATE TO CONTRADICT, BUT YOU DON'T SEEEEEM OKAY.
SORRY TO BARGE IN, BUT YOUR PLACE WAS CLOSER.
I JUST...THERE'S NO OTHER WAY TO SAY IT, PETER. I THOUGHT THE THING IN THE VIDEO WAS FAKE.
BUT THEN WE WERE WALKING HOME AND IT HAPPENED. IT HAPPENED TO US. BEN URICH AND I WERE ATTACKED--
--BY A GHOST.
DON'T YOU LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT.
SPIDER.
HYPEN.
MAN.

A few minutes later...
I DON'T THINK YOU'RE CRAZY.
YOU SHOULD! IT SOUNDS CRAZY.
BUT WHAT HAPPENED... HAPPENED. I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY.
HEY, IF A GHOST DRAGGED MY GIRLFRIEND DOWN THE STREET--
--WHO AM I TO... PFFT.
STOP.
HAHAHAHA!
I'M SORRY.
I'M SO SORRY.
I BELIEVE YOU. COMPLETELY. WE JUST NEED TO DIG A BIT DEEPER BECAUSE SPIDER-MAN CAN'T PUNCH A GHOST...
...ON ACCOUNT OF THEY DON'T EXIST.
WHAT'S ALL THIS?
SUBJECT.
CHANGED.
THE BEGINNINGS OF MY NEW SUIT.

I WAS GETTING WORKED OVER BY SWARM AT THE BROOKLYN BOTANIC GARDEN EARLIER...
...WHEN INSPIRATION STRUCK.
INSOLATED AND ARMORED AGAINST STINGY, ZAPPY AND OTHERWISE HARD-HITTING VILLAINS.
WORKING TITLE-- THE ARACHKNIGHT.
THOUGHTS?
I THINK YOU FOUGHT A SENTIENT BEE-MAN IN A GIANT GARDEN EARLIER...
...AND YET MY GHOST STORY IS RIDICULOUS.
LISTEN, AS SOON AS WE FIGURE OUT THE RATIONAL SCIENTIFIC EXPLANATION FOR YOUR GHOST--
YOU'LL USE IT AS AN EXCUSE TO DESIGN YOURSELF A SAUCY NEW SPIDER-SUIT?
POSSIBLY.

The Daily Bugle.
The next day.
FIVE MINUTES. I PROMISE.
DAILY BUGLE
JUST THREE MORE SENTENCES.
TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK
IT'S TOTALLY FINE. I LIKE WATCHING YOU WORK.
AND... DONE!
GOOD. NOW YOU CAN JUMP ONTO THAT VANISHING FOOD STORY YOU OWE ME.
TAK
ABSOLUTELY, ROBBIE. RIGHT AT THE TOP OF MY LIST.
I'VE GOT NO PROBLEM WITH YOU SHADOWING URICH SOME, BUT THAT DOESN'T EXCUSE YOU FROM YOUR OWN DEADLINES.
OF COURSE NOT, BOSS. I'M ALL OVER IT.
GOOD DEAL.
ENJOY YOUR LUNCH, WATSON.
GOOD TO SEE YA, PETE.
+SIGH+
UGH... FORGOT ALL ABOUT THAT STUPID PUFF PIECE.
"VANISHING FOOD," STOP THE PRESSES! SOMEBODY PROBABLY ATE IT.
HEH.
C'MON. I WANNA POP IN ON BEN BEFORE WE GO.

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED THE STACKS. SO MUCH GREAT HISTORY STORED DOWN HERE.
SORTA SAD. NOBODY REALLY COMES DOWN ANYMORE SINCE WE WENT PAPERLESS.
ALMOST NOBODY.
HEY, BEN. MOLLY SAID WE'D FIND YOU DOWN HERE.
JUST DIGGING IN THE DUST.
FOUND THAT OLD GHOST STORY I WAS TELLING YOU ABOUT.
GHOST STORY?
MAGGIE LORCA. MY COLLEAGUE WHO DIED.
WAIT, SHE DIED?!
GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN, PETER. HOW'S THE SCIENCE GAME TREATING YOU?
OH...NOT PARTICULARLY WELL LATELY, BUT STILL LIVING THE DREAM.
INVESTIGATING ILLEGAL GENETIC TESTING AT OSCORP?!
HOLY CRAP, BEN, THIS IS WILD.

Later, back at Peter's apartment...
I WONDER IF THESE WERE THE SAME TESTS THAT CREATED MISTER NEGATIVE.
COULD BE.
ALMOST *HAD* TO BE. THE TIMELINE CHECKS OUT.
WHY DO I GET THE FEELING YOU'RE NOT SUPER FOCUSED ON OUR EQUIPMENT TEST... PARTNER?
BECAUSE YOU'VE NEVER FULLY APPRECIATED YOUR LADY'S ABILITY TO MULTITASK.
ROBBERY IN PROGRESS IS STILL IN PROGRESS. AND ACCORDING TO GPS--
--YOU'RE SWINGING UP NOW.
AS DARKNESS FALLS ACROSS THE CITY, ARACHKNIGHT STEPS FROM THE SHADOWS.
OKAY, NO.

HIS KEEN SIGHTS SET SQUARELY. EVILDOINGS AFOOT.
PETER. STOP.
BUT THE ARACHKNIGHT--
IS NOT A THING.
+SIGH+ FINE. I'LL DO IT AS BORING OLD SPIDER-MAN.
EVENING, GENTLEMEN, I WAS WONDERING IF YOU COULD HELP ME OUT WITH SOMETHING.
SPIDER-MAN!
WE'RE CONDUCTING A LITTLE FIELD TEST ON THE NEW ARMOR HERE. THOUGHT I MIGHT LET YOU GET A FEW GOOD LICKS IN BEFORE I WEB YOUR THIEVING BUTTS TO THE WALL.
WEB THIS!
THERE YOU GO, SWING FOR THE FENCES.
CLANG
KREESH
HEH. ACTUALLY SORTA FUN JUST STANDING STILL FOR ONCE.

SHOULD'VE ARMORED UP YEARS AGO.
LISTEN, MAN...
KZZZZZZ
ALL RIGHT THEN, TIME TO TEST THE OFFENSE.
KZZZZ KSSSHH
LITTLE STIFF IN THE SHOULDER IF WE'RE BEING HONEST.
HOT POTATO. SOMETHING'S BURNING.
HAVING A MALFUNCTION... AND NOW WE'RE LOCKING ALL THE WAY UP.
YOU OKAY?
I'M SORTA TRAPPED AND IMMOBILE, WHICH SUCKS.
GET HIM!

BUT THE ARMOR WORKS GREAT.
I CAN'T FEEL A THING.
KREESH
BESIDES, FAILURE IS PURE SCIENCE.
KRNNK
SO YOU SAY.
THIS IS WHY--
--WE RUN THE TESTS.
WHAM
HE'S GOT ME! HE'S GOT ME!
TWIP
I SINCERELY APPRECIATE YOUR PARTICIPATION, FELLAS.
THWAK
QUITE LITERALLY COULDN'T HAVE DONE THIS WITHOUT YOU.

Dinner.
NOTHING I LIKE MORE THAN A SILENT DINNER OUT.
HMM?
OH MY GOD, I'M SO SORRY.
I'M RUINING DATE NIGHT.
HEH. NO.
IT'S TOTALLY FINE.
NO. YOU HATE SILENCE.
YEAH, BUT YOU'RE GORGEOUS WHEN YOU'RE IN THE ZONE.
INVESTIGATION LOOKS GOOD ON YOU.
EVEN WHEN I'M INVESTIGATING A GHOST STORY?
WITH MARY JANE WATSON ON THE CASE, IT WON'T BE A GHOST STORY--
CHOMP
--FOR... LONG...
YOU CAN'T RUN
FAST ENOUGH.

YOU CAN'T HIDE
DEEP ENOUGH.
I'M EVERYWHERE
LADY
PETER...
THROW THAT FILE
I SEE IT.
IN THE TRASH
OKAY, STOP! LEAVE HER ALONE!
YOU AND THAT TRENCH COAT
NEED TO
BACK!
WHOA!
OFF!
KREESH

AAAAAGH!
RUNNN!
WHAT IS THIS?
I DUNNO, PETER!
PROBABLY SCIENCE!
TO BE CONTINUED!

NEXT:

MARVEL

SPIDER-MAN VELOCITY #2

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